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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9461
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8878
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2694
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3120
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3184
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9801
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 9157
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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS
AND IRAN

11. LEAD STORIES: All Thursday morning papers gave top or front-page play to Prime Minister Hatoyama's one-on-one debates in the Diet on Wednesday with the leaders of the opposition parties.

12. "U.S. to Clearly Demonstrate Its Position of Attaching Importance to Human Rights" The business-oriented Nikkei wrote from Washington (2/18): "President Obama plans to meet with the Dalai Lama today at the White House. Although the meeting is intended to demonstrate the U.S.'s position of placing importance on human rights issues, China appears to be prepared to take retaliatory measures. The number of sources of conflict between the U.S. and China, including such issues as Internet censorship and trade friction, is growing.... The President is apparently planning to convey to the Dalai Lama his determination to continue to take up China's handling of Tibet in future talks with China. This appears to be intended to demonstrate both at home and abroad his policy of confronting issues that make China nervous."

13. "U.S. Accelerating Creation of Coalition against Iran" The liberal Mainichi reported from Washington (2/18): "Secretary of State Clinton pointed out on Tuesday in Saudi Arabia, the last stop of her tour of the Middle East, the 'growing influence' of Iran's Revolutionary Guards. Her recent statements, including one on Monday in which she said that 'Iran is becoming a military dictatorship,' have escalated the sense of crisis in the international community. This is intended to accelerate the creation of a coalition against Iran by enlisting the cooperation of China, which has been hesitant about sanctions, and to deter Israel from attacking Iran."

